THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT) (DEPARTMENT OFEDUCATION & DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE (KUMARI SEUA):-(a) A Navodaya Vidyalaya each has been sanctioned in Karimganj, Sonitpur, Kamrup, Cachar, Sibesagar, Nalbari, Barpcta, Darrang, Tinsukia, Dibrugarh, Kokrajhar, Morigaon, Kabilnglong, Golaghat and Jorhat districts of Assam.

(b) and (c) All the Navodaya Vidyalayas in Assam are functioning except for the one sanctioned in District Jorhat. The school in Jorhat District is not functioning due to sufficient infrastructural facilities not being provided by the State Government.

Construction of Syl Canal

423. SHRI K.R. MALKANI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made in the construction of Sutlej-Yamuna Link Canal so far;

(b) the cost so far incurred thereon;

(c) how much more it will cost; and

(d) by when it is expected to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) to (d) The information cannot be disclosed in public interest.

Missile threat on Indian Ports by Pakistan

424. SHRI T. VENKATRAM REDDY:
SHRI G. PRATHAPA REDDY:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:,

(a) whether the Army authorities in the Poonch-Rajouri Section have definite information of Pakistan using Two mimic to target some Indian ports on the LOK of Control (LOC); and

(b) if so, what steps, diplomatic and military, are being contemplated by Government to ensure the safety of the local people and security of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE AND THE DEPTT. OF DEFENCE RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) and (b) In Jan 1996, Army authorities had some uncorroborated information to suggest that there was a possibility of Pakistan using TOW missile to target some Indian posts in the Punch Sector. As the information was uncorroborated, the matter was not taken up with Pakistani authorities. No missiles were fired by the Pakistani troops.

In cases of firings from across the border, appropriate measures are taken to safeguard the safety of the local populace and security of the country.

Approval of rail upgrade Plans

425. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE:
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item as reported in the Business Age of January 8, 19% to the effect that Rs. 2,000 crore rail-upgrade plan, including the Mumbai Suburban System has been approved by Government; and

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the project-wise cost and the time frame for implementation thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SURESH KALMADI): (a) and (b) Details of some of the projects in progress/ being undertaken to upgrade railway network in Maharashtra State, including Mumbai suburban system, are given below: